

We claim:

1 1. A method for retrieving and editing the data structure of a HTML UI Control comprising
2 the steps of: displaying, a HTML UI Control in a Web page within an application window at a
3 client device; transmitting, to a first server, an HTTP request; invoking, at said first server or a
4 second server, program code based on said HTTP request to query an information system; and
5 receiving, at said application window, an HTTP response containing the results of said query;
6 wherein the said transmitting and said receiving actions are accomplished without refreshing said
7 Web page displaying said HTML UI Control.

1 2. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said HTML UI Control is a form.

1 3. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said HTML UI Control is a grid.

1 4. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said HTML UI Control is a listview.

1 5. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said HTML UI Control is a menu.

1 6. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said HTML UI Control is a treeview.

1 7. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said HTML UI Control displays at least a
2 portion of a list of items.

1 8. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said Web page is contained in a HTML frame.

1 9. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said Web page contains a HTML inline frame.

1 10. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said application window is a Web browser
2 window.

1 11. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said Web page has means for storing the data
2 structure of said HTML UI Control in a JavaScript object.

1 12. A method as defined in claim 11, wherein said JavaScript object is a multidimensional
2 array.

1 13. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said transmitting and said receiving actions are
2 accomplished without the use of Web browser plugins.

1 14. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the transmission of said HTTP request and
2 response is accomplished through a non-persistent HTTP connection.

1 15. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said information system is a database.

1 16. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said information system is a network domain.

1 17. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said information system is a file system.

1 18. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said results are evaluated by a JavaScript
2 function accessible by said Web page.

1 19. A method as defined in claim 18, wherein the evaluation of said JavaScript function
2 results in a visual alteration of the displayed HTML UI Control. [claims 20-40 intentionally left
3 blank]

1 41. A method for retrieving and editing the data structure of a HTML UI Control comprising
2 the steps of: displaying, a HTML UI Control in a Web page within an application window at a
3 client device, said Web page having means for storing the data structure of said HTML UI
4 Control; transmitting, to a first server, an HTTP request containing at least one function name
5 and at least one parameter, wherein the program code of said function name(s) resides at a
6 server; invoking, at said first server or a second server, said program code to query an
7 information system based on the evaluation of said function name(s) and said parameter(s); and
8 receiving, at said application window, an HTTP response containing the results of the execution
9 of said query upon said information system; wherein the said transmitting and said receiving
10 actions are accomplished without refreshing said Web page displaying said HTML UI Control.

1 42. A method as defined in claim 41, wherein said HTML UI Control is a form.

- 1 43. A method as defined in claim 41, wherein said HTML UI Control is a grid.
- 1 44. A method as defined in claim 41, wherein said HTML UI Control is a listview.
- 1 45. A method as defined in claim 41, wherein said HTML UI Control is a menu.
- 1 46. A method as defined in claim 41, wherein said HTML UI Control is a treeview.
- 1 47. A method as defined in claim 41, wherein said HTML UI Control displays at least a
2 portion of a list of items.
- 1 48. A method as defined in claim 41, wherein said Web page is contained in a HTML frame.
- 1 49. A method as defined in claim 41, wherein said Web page contains a HTML inline frame.
- 1 50. A method as defined in claim 41, wherein said application window is a Web browser
2 window.
- 1 51. A method as defined in claim 41, wherein said data structure is stored in a JavaScript
2 object.
- 1 52. A method as defined in claim 51, wherein said JavaScript object is a multidimensional

2 array.

1 53. A method as defined in claim 41, wherein said transmitting and said receiving actions are
2 accomplished without the use of Web browser plugins.

1 54. A method as defined in claim 41, wherein the transmission of said HTTP request and
2 response is accomplished through a non-persistent HTTP connection.

1 55. A method as defined in claim 41, wherein said information system is a database.

1 56. A method as defined in claim 41, wherein said information system is a network domain.

1 57. A method as defined in claim 41, wherein said information system is a file system.

1 58. A method as defined in claim 41, wherein said results are evaluated by a JavaScript
2 function accessible by said Web page.

1 59. A method as defined in claim 58, wherein the evaluation of said JavaScript function
2 results in a visual alteration of the displayed HTML UI Control. [claims 60-80 intentionally left
3 blank]

1 81. A system for retrieving and editing the data structure of a HTML UI Control comprising:

2 means for storing the data structure associated with at least one HTML UI Control of at least one
3 Web page in a memory; and means for executing a query to a remote information system from
4 said Web page(s); and means for returning the results of said query to said Web page(s); and
5 means for processing said results at said Web page(s).

1 82. The system of claim 81 wherein said means for storing the data structure associated with
2 at least one HTML UI Control of at least one Web page in a memory comprises: means for
3 appending data to said data structure stored in said memory.

1 83. The system of claim 81 wherein said means for storing the data structure associated with
2 at least one HTML UI Control of at least one Web page in a memory comprises: means for
3 searching said data structure stored in said memory; and means for replacing the data of said data
4 structure stored in said memory.

1 84. The system of claim 81 wherein said means for executing a query to a remote
2 information system from said Web page(s) comprises: means for preparing the necessary
3 parameters of a remote procedure call (RPC) to a specified function at a server; and means for
4 packaging said RPC as a HTTP request; and means for executing said specified function at said
5 server.

1 85. The system of claim 81 wherein said means for returning the results of said query to said
2 Web page(s) comprises: means for preparing said results as at least one parameter of a function

3 call; and means for packaging said results as a HTTP response; and means for returning said
4 HTTP response to said Web page(s).

1 86. The system of claim 85 wherein means for preparing said results as at least one parameter
2 of a function call comprises: means for packaging said results as at least one delimited string.

1 87. The system of claim 81 wherein means for processing said results at said Web page(s)
2 comprises: means for passing said results to at least one function of said Web page(s); and means
3 for executing said function(s) to process said results.

1 88. The system of claim 87 wherein means for executing said function(s) to process said
2 results comprises: means for parsing at least one delimited string containing said results.